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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: William P. Fell
Serial Number: 10/696,418
Filed: October 29, 2003
For: Jet Powered Steering System For Small Boat Outboard Motors

Art Unit: 3617
Examiner: S. Avila

In the claims

A statement of the status of claims follows:

1. (canceled).
2. (canceled).
3. (canceled).
4. (canceled).
5. (canceled).
6. (canceled).
7. (canceled).
8. (canceled).

9. (original) A steering system for a boat having an outboard motor with a jet drive output attached to a lower unit comprising:

- a) an adaptor ring, attached to said lower unit surrounding said jet drive output;
- b) a directional nozzle;
- c) a means for pivotably mounting said directional nozzle on said adaptor ring such that said directional nozzle extends backward therefrom; and
- d) a means for pivoting said directional nozzle in a horizontal plane.

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10. (original) The steering system of claim 9 further comprising a means for reversing the thrust of said jet drive output, operably attached to said directional nozzle.

11. (original) The steering system of claim 10 wherein the means for reversing the thrust of said jet drive output comprises:

- a) a curved hood, pivotably attached to said directional nozzle; and
- b) a means for raising and lowering said curved hood, attached to said curved hood.

12. (original) The steering system of claim 11 wherein the means for raising and lowering said curved hood comprises:

- a) a cable, having two ends, the first end of the cable being attached to the curved hood; and the second end of said cable being attached to a reversing lever, installed in said boat.

13. (original) The steering system of claim 9 wherein the means for pivoting said directional nozzle comprise:

- a) a tiller handle attached to said outboard motor; and
- b) a means for connecting said tiller handle to said directional nozzle.

14. (currently amended) The steering system of claim ~~[[9]]~~ 13 wherein the means for connecting said tiller handle to said directional nozzle comprise a cable.

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15. (original) The steering system of claim 9 wherein the means for pivoting said directional nozzle comprise:

- a) a pair of handlebars;
- b) a means for supporting the pair of handlebars above a deck;
- c) a means for converting rotational motion of the pair of handlebars into reciprocating motion; and
- d) a cable having two ends, one of the two ends of the cable being attached to said means for converting rotational motion and the other of two ends of the cable being attached to the directional nozzle.

16. (currently amended) The steering system of claim 15 wherein the means for means for converting rotational motion of the pair of handlebars into reciprocating motion comprises:

- a) a bracket having a first end and a second end, the first end of said bracket being attached to said shaft and extending horizontally therefrom; and
- b) a means for ~~attached~~ attaching a cable, attached to the second end of said bracket.

17. (currently amended) The steering system of claim 9 wherein the means for pivotably mounting said directional nozzle on said adaptor ring comprise:

- a) a pair of brackets, attached to said directional nozzle; and

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b) a means for ~~pivotal~~ pivotably securing said pair of brackets to said adopter ring.

18. (original) The steering system of claim 13 wherein the tiller handle comprises:

a) a mounting arm, which is secured to the outboard motor and extends forward therefrom, said mounting arm having an upper bracket and a lower bracket;

b) a steering control portion, having a handgrip and a steering arm, extending rearward therefrom, said steering arm having an upper bracket and a lower bracket;

c) a fastener means for pivotably connecting the upper bracket on said mounting arm to the upper bracket of said steering arm;

d) a fastener means for pivotably connecting the lower bracket on said mounting arm to the lower bracket of said steering arm; and

e) a cable connector, attached to said steering arm.

19. (currently amended) The steering system of claim 9 wherein the tiller handle further comprises a means for controlling the speed of the outboard motor[[]].

20. (original) The steering system of claim 19 wherein the means for controlling the speed of the outboard motor includes:

a) a twisting hand grip;

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- b) a shaft attached to said twisting handgrip and extending backwards therefrom;
- c) a universal joint attached to said shaft;
- d) a second shaft attached to said universal joint and extending backwards therefrom; and
- e) a means for connecting said second shaft to a throttle, in operable communication with said outboard motor.

21. (new) A steering system for a boat having an outboard motor with a jet drive output comprising:

- a) a directional nozzle, pivotably mounted to said outboard motor such that said directional nozzle surrounds said jet drive output and extends backward therefrom;
- b) a pair of handlebars;
- c) a shaft, extending downward from said pair of handlebars;
- d) a means for supporting the pair of handlebars above a deck;
- e) a bracket having a first end and a second end, the first end of said bracket being attached to said shaft and extending horizontally therefrom; and

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f) a cable having two ends, one of the two ends of the cable being attached to the second end of said bracket and the other of two ends of the cable being attached to the directional nozzle.

22. (new) The steering system of claim 21 further comprising a means for reversing the thrust of said jet drive output, operably attached to said directional nozzle.

23. (new) The steering system of claim 22 wherein the means for reversing the thrust of said jet drive output comprises:

a) a curved hood, pivotably attached to said directional nozzle; and

b) a means for raising and lowering said curved hood, attached to said curved hood.

24. (new) The steering system of claim 23 wherein the means for raising and lowering said curved hood comprises:

a) a cable, having two ends, the first end of the cable being attached to the curved hood; and the second end of said cable being attached to a revering lever, installed in said boat.

25. (new) A steering system for a boat having an outboard motor with a jet drive output comprising:

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- a) a directional nozzle, pivotably mounted to said outboard motor such that said directional nozzle surrounds said jet drive output and extends backward therefrom;
- b) a tiller handle attached to said outboard motor; and
- c) a means for connecting said tiller handle to said directional nozzle
- d) wherein said tiller handle includes:
- i) a mounting arm, which is secured to the outboard motor and extends forward therefrom, said mounting arm having an upper bracket and a lower bracket;
- ii) a steering control portion, having a handgrip and a steering arm, extending rearward therefrom, said steering arm having an upper bracket and a lower bracket;
- iii) a fastener means for pivotably connecting the upper bracket on said mounting arm to the upper bracket of said steering arm;
- iv) a fastener means for pivotably connecting the lower bracket on said mounting arm to the lower bracket of said steering arm; and
- v) a cable connector, attached to said steering arm.

26. (new) The steering system of claim 25 wherein the tiller handle further comprises a means for controlling the speed of the outboard motor.

27. (new) The steering system of claim 26 wherein the means for controlling the speed of the outboard motor includes:

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- a) a twisting hand grip;
- b) a shaft attached to said twisting handgrip and extending backwards therefrom;
- c) a universal joint attached to said shaft;
- d) a second shaft attached to said universal joint and extending backwards therefrom; and
- e) a means for connecting said second shaft to a throttle, in operable communication with said outboard motor.

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